

WASHINGTON READY FOR BIG INAUGURAL

Great Week Starts With Only Few Finishing Touches Left.

PLANS FOR BALL MOST ELABORATE

Dance and Concert Cards Issued. Perfect Samples of Engraver's Art.

Bring on the new President. Washington is ready.

That is the attitude today throughout the city. Every man, woman, every child is ready. The reviewing stands are ready, and tonight when the vista of Pennsylvania avenue from the Capitol to the Treasury will be through a tunnel of fire, the thousands who have watched the preparations grow from the outlined plans will realize the success that has attended the efforts of the men selected to make the induction of William Howard Taft to the chief office in the land stand out conspicuous in the history of similar events.

Tying Loose Ends.

At inaugural headquarters today, where the clerks were busy tying up the loose ends of the plans, attending to the last minute details of the great scheme, satisfaction was expressed at the results that have been attained. In the Pension building an army of workmen is engaged in the wonderful transformation that will take place between now and the evening of the 4th.

At Union Station busy committees are watching incoming trains, caring for visitors and welcoming strangers. In the Court of Honor hundreds of men are putting the finishing touches on that part of the great highway that will fall within the view of the new Commander-in-Chief as he reviews the army, the navy, and the body of citizens he has just sworn to faithfully direct.

There is no part of the inaugural ceremonies that will have a greater prominence in the minds of visitors than the big ball at the Pension building when the representatives of all nations join with the American people to welcome their new chief.

The ball is to be the crowning event of the day and the committees in charge are determined to make it the most splendid function of its kind that has ever been given.

Chairman Gist of the floor committee is organizing his assistants and arranging their duties so that there will be no conflict.

Aides to Assemble.

This afternoon at 4:30 o'clock the aides will assemble for another rehearsal when the work laid out for them will be carefully gone over to the end that each man will know and be able to do just what is expected of him.

Everything connected with the ball will have an air of artistic dignity. The committees in charge of the various details of the ball features have worked in such perfect harmony that the plans seem to be the work of one man and to be one general scheme.

This morning the dance cards to be used were turned over to the inaugural committee. The cards emphasize the demand that has been made on all committees in every branch of the work of preparation for dignity. Dignity has been the watchword of the inaugural committee.

Plain white cards on which are engraved the title in plain black letters with the seal of the committee in blue. There are but four inside pages, two of which are taken up with the dance program.

Dance List Given.

A list of twenty dances is given together with the promenade numbers. On the last page is the supper menu, and on the back cover the year. All of the work has been engraved rather than printed, and is a masterpiece of the engraver's art.

The program for the concert, which was also issued today, is of similar fashion except that the ink used is the famous blue-tint. The pictures of Taft and Sherman adorn the front cover, and the twelve inside pages are occupied by the program. The five concerts are designated: First, in honor of the army; second, in honor of the navy; the third in honor of the governors of the States; the fourth, in honor of the Senate and House of Representatives; and the fifth in honor of the American people. Tickets for the concert were placed on sale this morning at various points about the city, where also the inaugural ball tickets can be had.

Money Refunded if Not Satisfied.

G. W. CAVE & CO.,

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BANDMASTERS PLAN TO PLEASE TAFT'S EAR

Noted Leaders Spend Sleepless Nights Deciding Air to Play Before President, Who, Report Says, Doesn't Know a Tune.

What will the band play? That's the great national question that is stirring the bandmasters, who will lead various delegations in the inaugural parade. In the mind of each one, the success of the inauguration depends upon the selection that will be waited to the new President when his band passes the reviewing stand.

Everything from "The Stars and Stripes" to the reckless abandon of "Hail! The Gang's All Here," are being considered. "Carve Dat 'Possum," "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight," and "Hail Columbia," appear to have received the most votes of approval from a rough canvass of the men who will swing the batons.

The announcement by John C. Weber, of Cincinnati, that Judge Taft has never shown that he has an ear for music, may solve the problem and relieve the bandmasters of the fear of not pleasing him.

"Ree-Eye-Double-El-Bill Taft is no Counterfeit Bill," "My Dream of the U. S. A.," "Oh, What a Difference a Few Hours Make," "I Don't Care If You Never Come Back," and "Honey Boy," are a few of the other marching selections running close for first honor.

Incidentally it is pointed out by the experienced leaders of marching hosts that the weather will play an important part in the final selection. "In the Good Old Summertime," it is expected, will be played with variations in the event of snow on the 4th.

"Auld Lang Syne." CINCINNATI, March 1.—John C. Weber, who will lead his own band of 100 pieces at the head of the Blaine Club, with 350 uniformed marchers, at the inauguration, and who has known Taft from boyhood, said: "Taft has no particular ear for music, as I know from my experience with him. My band, as we pass the reviewing stand, will play 'Auld Lang Syne.' But weather conditions may govern. At the inauguration of Governor Harmon at Columbus it was snowing, and we played 'Good Old Summertime,' followed by 'When the Clouds Roll By' and 'Tell Them That You Saw Me.'"

"No Counterfeit Bill." OMAHA, March 1.—"Ree-eye-double-el-Bill Taft is no Counterfeit Bill" is the most appropriate air that I know of for the occasion," said George H. Green, leader of Green's Band.

"Hail to the Chief." BUFFALO, March 1.—John W. Bolton, bandmaster of the Seventy-fourth Regiment, said: "Of course, 'Hail to the Chief' should be played, and after that 'Rally Round the Flag, Boys.' It is glorious music and stirs one's heart."

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The song was chosen by the society from the entire list of patriotic songs extant today as being the most appropriate for the new anthem. It was recently sung at the Pure Food Exposition in Toledo, where a special day was set aside in its honor and more than 12,000 persons sang it. It also formed an important part of the numerous Lincoln celebration programs February 12. The title of the proposed anthem is, "My Own United States."

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CABIN JOHN ORDER BOTHERS ENGINEERS

May Erase All Names to Restore Jefferson Davis' Name Properly.

Army engineers are having considerable difficulty in settling the manner in which Jeff Davis' name is to be replaced on the stone tablet in Cabin John bridge, from which it was erased during the civil war.

All the lettering on the tablet is chiseled in, and when the name of Jefferson Davis was taken out, it was necessary to cut the stone to the depth of an inch to remove the lettering. Consequently, the engineers have been puzzled as to how to "carve" it back, without giving it undue prominence.

Should they leave it as it is now, indented, it would be the most prominent thing on the tablet, and the same would be true if they cut it in a block of stone and inserted that. This means that the Secretary of War will probably have to approve a plan for cutting down the surface of the stone, making it entirely blank, and renewing all the letters.

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